THE

# Theatrical Observer;

AND

## Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down ought n malice."

No 1259 Monday, Dec. 19, 1825. Price 1d.

## Drury Lane Theatre.

A new Operatic Drama, entitled *Leocardea*, was produced on Saturday evening, the Music by Auber. This piece which, in construction, is something similar to *Clari*, is a translation from the French by Barham Livius, Esq. The main incident of the Play, that involuntary seduction of the heroine, is borrowed from a little Romance of Florian's, and forms a very interesting subject; but we will at once proceed to give an outline of the Plot:—

Philippo, (Mr. Horn) and Léocádea, (Miss Kelly) the orphan descendants of a noble family, are, by political circumstances, reduced to penury. Philippo, as the only means of supporting himself and sister, enters the army as a private soldier; becomes a favourite with his Colonel, and is promoted to the rank of Serjeant. During the time that he is quartered in the vicinity of his Colonel, Don Carlos's villa, he becomes attached to Blancha, (Miss Povey) neice of the Alcade of the Village (Mr. Tayleure); her uncle, a pedantic, inquisitive man, filled with high notions of the dignity of his situation, consents to the match, on condition that Philippo produces undeniable testimonies as to his birth, and the character of his connexions. At this point the piece commences, with the festive preparations for the nuptials of the sergeant and his fair Biancha; Philippo, who has, in consequence, acquainted his Colonel with his birth, produces testimonies, signed by him, as to family and services. Don Carlos, (Mr. Mercer) appears delighted to hear that his favorite is of noble descent, more particularly as it favors his union with Léocádea, to whom he has been long attached, but deterred from the encouragement of his passion by her supposed origin; all at this period appear happy in the accomplishment of their hopes, except the fair heroine herself, who has for a length of time appeared a prey to some secret sorrow. The sister of Don Carlos and Don Fernando, (Mr. Browne) the captain of Philippo's troop, are to be married at the same time, and a triple union seems likely to take place, when the Alcade discovers by an intercepted letter, that Léocadea is the mother of a little boy at nurse in the village; he acquaints Philippo with the circumstance, declines the match, and the act closes with the confusion and surprise of the bridal party in consequence. Philippo, in the next scene, in great agony of mind, accuses his sister of having disgraced her family, when she discloses to him her unfortunate story, as follows:—During her residence for a short time with a sick aunt in the environs of Lisbon, on one fatal evening, appalled by her relative's encreasing illness, she ventured out

alone in quest of medical aid; in her road she met a troop of half intoxicated young nobles; she flew, was pursued, and fainted in their grasp; on recovering she found herself alone in a strange room splendidly furnished, and all circumstances assured her of the crime that had been perpetrated during her insensibility; she uttered a few words, when a person near her, in a tone of horror, exclaimed "Heavens! it is not she!" and suddenly left the apartment. She afterwards discovers a window, by which, nearly in a state of madness, she escaped with the hazard of her life, carrying with her a portrait, which, in her frenzy, she had torn from the walls. On the recital of this dreadful story, while her brother vows to devote himself to vengeance on her destroyer, Don Carlos enters, gives Philippo a lieutenant's commission, makes proposals for his sister's hand, and, to his utter astonishment, is refused without a reason being assigned; a report arrives that the child is drowned, and Léocádea, in the distraction of the moment, avows herself its mother, and rushes out. The portrait turns out to be that of Don Carlos's sister, the bride of Fernando, on whom Philippo's suspicions rest. He pursues him to Lisbon, where the marriage fete is celebrating in Don Carlos's town-house, and challenges him by letter to answer for his villainy. Fernando fortunately from the engagements of the evening, gives all his letters to the colonel to open for him; while the latter reading the challenge hesitates how to proceed, Léocádea, who has followed her brother to prevent mischief, enters—recognises the apartment as the scene of her misfortunes, and faints in the arms of Don Carlos, who appears, from mistaking her for a courtezan under his protection, to have been the involuntary instrument of her ruin—he offers her reparation by marriage, and all, as might be expected, ends happily. This story is certainly interesting, the incidents of the piece are well conducted, and if the performers had been tolerably perfect in their parts, it would have gone off without a dissentient voice, but they really did not allow common justice to the author. *The Sleep-Walker* and *The Devil to Pay*, followed to a numerous audience.—The Christmas Pantomime is to be called *Harlequin, Jack of all Trades.*

## Covent Garden Theatre.

On Saturday evening Sheridan's Comedy of *The Rivals*, was performed to a fair house. The only novelty of the evening was making *Lydia Languish* a vocalist—Madame Vestris was, of course, good in the part. Mr. Kemble's *Captain Absolute* was *absolute* excellence, and Connor certainly made a more gentlemanly *Sir Lucius* than the last representative of that character we had occasion to notice.—The trifle of *'Twas I*, was repeated.—Madame Vestris was encored in two of her songs, but during the second act the piece met with considerable opposition;—it cannot stand long.

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All Communications must be post paid.—Printing in General.

# Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Opera of

# Rob Roy Macgregor.

Sir Frederick Vernon, Mr EGERTON,
Rashleigh Osbaldistone.....Mr POWER,
Owen, Mr BLANCHARD, Macstuart, Mr MEARS,
Captain Thornton, Mr CONNOR,
Rob Roy, Mr WARDE,
Hamish and Robert, Messrs C. Parsloe, and Hayes,
Major Galbraith, Mr J. ISAACS,
Dougal, Mr RAYNER, Allan, Mr HENRY,
Baillie Nicol Jarvie, Mr W. FARREN,
Macvittie, Mr ATKINS, Jobson, Mr LEY,
Serjeant, Mr Ryals, Lancie, Mr Heath,
Host....Mr Tinney. Andrew....Mr Barnes.
Diana Vernon, Miss PATON,
Martha, Miss J. SCOTT, Mattie, Mrs WILSON,
Helen Macgregor, Mrs FAUCIT.

After which, the Extravaganza of

# Giovanni in London.

Don Giovanni, Madame VESTRIS,
Leporello, Mr KEELEY, Mr Florentine Finikin, Mr MEADOWS,
Mr Deputy English, Mr EVANS, Pluto, Mr ATKINS,
Mercury, Mr HENRY, Charon, Mr J. ISSACS, Porus, Mr MEARS,
Firedrake, Mr LEY, Drainemdry, Mr CHAPMAN,
Simpkins, Mr BARNES, Hopinjay, Mr HEATH,
Councellor, Mr Crumpton, Watchman, Mr Ryals, Hide, Mr Grant,
Cobler, Mr C. Parsloe, Master Leporello, Master Boden.
Proserpine, Miss HENRY, Mrs Leporello, Miss LOVE,
Mrs English, Mrs DALY, Mrs Drainemdry, Mrs WILSON,
Miss Constantia Quixotte, Miss HAMMERSLEY,
Mrs Porus, Miss BROWN, Mrs Simpkins, Mrs HUDSON,
Squalling Fan, Miss HELME,
Succabus & Tartarus, Misses SHOTTER and VIALS,

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To-morrow, The Marriage of Figaro.

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*Fashionable Lounges.—Open Daily.*

DIORAMA, Regent's Park.—The present Views are the Ruins of Holyrood Chapel, a moonlight scene, and Chartres Cathedral.—Open from 10 till 4.—N. B. Between the hours of 11 and 3, is the best time to View the Diorama.

THE BURMESE IMPERIAL STATE CARRIAGE, studded with 20,000 precious Stones, an object of the greatest splendour and curiosity, captured in India, at Tavoy, in the Kingdom of Ava.—Is Exhibiting, as drawn by Elephants, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

# Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, (2no time) a new Operatic Drama, called

# LEOCADEA.

Carlos, Col. of a Portuguse Regiment, Mr MERCER,
Don Fernando, a Captain in do. Mr BROWNE,
Phillippo, a Serjeant in do, Mr HORN,
Crespo, Alcade of the Village, Mr TAYLEURE,
Lèocàdea, Philippo's Sister, Miss KELLY,
Biancha, Crospo's Niece.....Miss POVEY.

After which, the Extravaganza, called

# Giovanni in London.

Don Giovanni, Miss CUBITT, Leporello, Mr HARLEY,
Mr Deputy English.....Mr GATTIE, Pluto... ..Mr WEBSTER,
Mr Florentine Finikin, Mr MERCER, Mercury, Mr HOWELL,
Charon, Mr O. SMITH, Firedrake, Mr SHERIFF,
Drainemdry, Mr TAYLEURE, Simpkins, Mr FITZWILLIAM,
Popinjay, Mr YARNOLD, Councellor, Mr C. JONES,
Snaps, Mr G. SMITH, Lawyer, Mr SEYMOUR,
Proserpine, Miss C. CARR, Mrs Leporello, Miss NICOL,
Miss Constantia Quixotte, Miss GRADDON,
Mrs English, Mrs ORGER, Mrs Drainemdry, Mrs HARLOWE,
Mrs Porus, Mrs WESTON, Mrs Simpkins, Mrs WILLMOTT,
Squalling Fan, Miss POVEY,
Succabus, Miss VALANCY, Tartarus, Mrs BEST.

To conclude with, the Historic Drama of

# De La Perouse.

Conge, Mr T. BLANCHARD,
Perouse, Mr NOBLE, Theodore, Miss LANE,
Chimpanxee, Master WIELAND,
Madame Perouse.....Miss SMITHSON,
Kanko, Mr O. SMITH, Negaske, Mr HOWELL,
Umba, Mrs FIELD.

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To-morrow, Der Freischutz.

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Great Room, Spring Gardens. MARSHALL'S PERISTREPHIC ORIGINAL PANORAMA, (with new additions lately made) illustrative of all the events which happened to Bonaparte, from the Battle) of Waterloo till his death, displaying 13 Views of St. Helena, the Battles of Genappe, Trafalgar, &c. accompanied by a full Military Band—Day Exhibitions, from 12 till 5,—Evening ditto, by Gas, at 7 and half-past 8.

OSMORAMA—A change having taken place in this Exhibition, it is now composed of a General View of Rome, Views of St. Peter's at Rome, the Cathedral at Rome, and several others, equally interesting.—209, Regent Street, Oxford Street.